

10. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein R_{6a} is H or a protecting group for hydroxyl or thio.

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11. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is C₁-C₃ alkyl substituted with 1 to 3 OR_{6a} or SR_{6a}, which OR_{6a} or SR_{6a} groups are stable to hydrolysis in gastrointestinal fluid.

12. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is
-(CH₂)_{m1}CH((CH₂)_{m3}R₃)₂, -(CH₂)_{m1}C((CH₂)_{m3}R₃)₃;
-(CH₂)_{m1}CH((CH₂)_{m3}R_{5a}W₅)₂; -(CH₂)_{m1}CH((CH₂)_{m3}R₃)((CH₂)_{m3}R_{5a}W₅);
-(CH₂)_{m1}C((CH₂)_{m3}R₃)₂(CH₂)_{m3}R_{5a}W₅), (CH₂)_{m1}C((CH₂)_{m3}R_{5a}W₅)₃ or
-(CH₂)_{m1}C((CH₂)_{m3}R₃)((CH₂)_{m3}R_{5a}W₅)₂ and m₃ is an integer from 1 to 3.

13. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is -R₅, -W₅ or -R_{5a}W₅.

14. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is R₅.

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18. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is a branched chain R₅ group.

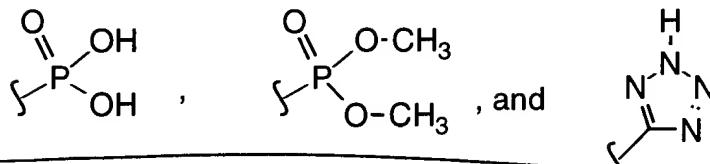
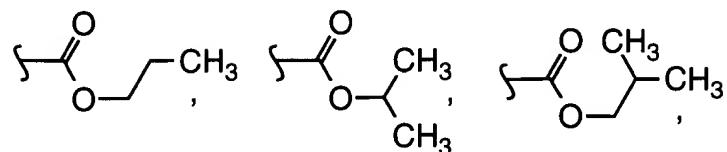
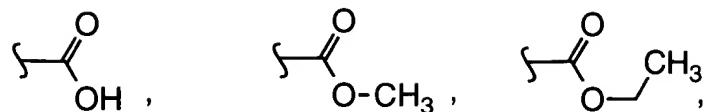
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20. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is R_{5e} wherein R_{5e} is normal or secondary alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms substituted with 1-3 OR_{1a} or SR_{1a} wherein R_{1a} is C₁-C₄ alkyl.

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25. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is R₄ having 1 to 7 carbon atoms.

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26. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein said W₆ is not C₁-C₃ alkyl substituted with OH or OH protected with an aralkyl, acyl, a silicon protecting group or a tetrahydropyran.

30. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₁ is -CO₂R₁.

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31. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein E₁ is selected from the group consisting of: phenethyl ester of carboxyl,



34. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₃ is -C(O)-R₅.

35. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is an alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 0 to 3 F, Br, Cl, N₃, NO₂ or CN.

36. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₅ is selected from the group consisting of:

